



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/593,184	06/13/2000	Charles Calvin Byers	C.C.Byers 37-5-1-10-5	5441
7590	07/15/2004			
Werner Ulrich 434 Maple Street Glen Ellyn, IL 60137				
EXAMINER TRAN, PHUC H				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2666		5		

DATE MAILED: 07/15/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/593,184

Applicant(s)

BYERS ET AL.

Examiner

PHUC H TRAN

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 15,16,20,21 and 23 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14,17-19 and 22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-11, 13-14, 17-19 & 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6628646 B1) in view of La Porta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5434852).

- With respect to claims 1, 6, 13-14, 17-19 and 22, Angle teaches apparatus for performing call control functions in a packetized telecommunications switch comprising:

a core switching fabric for transmitting traffic channels and call control messages from an input to an output (Fig. 1);

a Master Controller connected to the core switching fabric (block 110 in Fig. 1);

Angle fails to teach a plurality of feature servers connected to the core switching fabric for performing call processing functions; the Master Controller for receiving call processing request messages, and for transmitting call processing request messages to a selected one of the plurality of feature servers; the feature servers for generating call control messages for transmission via the core switching fabric to peripheral equipment for implementing a call control function specified in a call control message; wherein all call processing request messages are processed by the plurality of feature servers.

La Porta et al. teaches a plurality of feature servers connected to the core switching fabric for performing call processing functions (block 518, 520, 522, 524 in Fig. 5 connected to call servers 502 and to switches); the Master Controller for receiving call processing request messages (col. 7, lines 41-44), and for transmitting call processing request messages to a selected one of the plurality of feature servers (col. 7, lines 45-48); the feature servers for generating call control messages for transmission via the core switching fabric to peripheral equipment for implementing a call control function specified in a call control message (col. 7, lines 51-54); wherein all call processing request messages are processed by the plurality of feature servers (col. 7, lines 41-63). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement the method of processing call request messages from user to a switch to plurality of servers for meeting the performance of demanding of users in communication system to processing request call with plurality of feature servers.

- With respect to claims 2 & 10, Angle also fails to teach wherein the core switching fabric comprises a circuit switching fabric for establishing call traffic connections. La Porta teaches the core switching fabric comprising a circuit switching fabric (col. 2, lines 25-27) for voice communication. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement the circuit switching into Angle for switching circuit link in communication.

- With respect to claims 3 & 11, Angle also teaches wherein the core switching fabric comprises a packet switching fabric for transmitting the call control messages (IP packet, in col. 4, lines 19-21).

- With respect to claims 4-5, Angle fails to disclose wherein the plurality of feature servers comprises a plurality of different types of feature servers for processing different kinds of call processing request messages. La Porta teaches the plurality of feature servers comprises a plurality of different types of feature servers for processing different kinds of call processing request messages (e.g. feature servers in Fig. 5) for processing different kinds of call. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to implement the features into Angle's invention for processing different kinds of call processing request messages.

- With respect to claims 7-9, Angle explicitly fails to teach wherein the Master Controller comprises duplicated equipment, however it would be obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to understand a number of controller, which depends on service need.

3. Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Angle et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6628646 B1) and La Porta et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5434852) in further view Bauer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6026151).

- With respect to claim 12, Angle and La Porta teaches apparatus for performing call control functions in a packetized telecommunications switch comprising: wherein the plurality of feature servers comprises a plurality of different types of feature servers, but they fails to teach the Master Controller performs the function of accumulating billing records. Bauer teaches the billing records (block 590 in Fig. 9) for calculating a cost of calls from users. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was

made to implement the method of billing from Bauer into Angle at the master controller for controlling the connection fee of calls from the users to pay for a service.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 15-16, 20-21, and 23 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14, 17-19 and 22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See form PTO-892.

7. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

Art Unit: 2666

however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.


8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHUC H TRAN whose telephone number is (703) 308-7471. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, RAO SEEMA can be reached on (703) 308-5463. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 872-9314.

Phuc Tran
Assistant Examiner
Art Unit 2664

P.t
October 17, 2003



DANG TON
PATENT EXAMINER